

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 OMB-01 NIC-01 IO-14 DRC-01 (ISO) W

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R 191102Z SEP 74

FM AMCONSUL BELFAST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 713

INFO AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

UNCLAS BELFAST 136

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, U.K. (N.I.)

SUBJECT: ELECTION FEVER BUILDS WHILE STRIKE THREAT RECEDES

REF: BELFAST 129

1. POLITICAL ACTIVITIES NORTHERN IRELAND INTENSIFY FOLLOWING ANNOUNCEMENT PARLIAMENTARY ELECTION WILL BE HELD OCT. 10 UNITED ULSTER UNIONIST COALITION (UUUC) LEADERS CONFIDENT THEY WILL TAKE ELEVEN SEATS AND PLAN ENERGETIC CAMPAIGN TO OUST SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC AND LABOUR PARTY (SDLP) LEADER GERRY FITT FROM TWELFTH. UUUC AND SDLP ALIKE IN SOME DISARRAY. OFFICIAL UNIONISTS SOME CONSTITUENCIES PROTESTING PUBLICLY ABOUT UUUC APPLICATION COALITION AGREEMENT RESERVING CERTAIN CANDIDATES FOR VANGUARD OR DEMOCRATIC UNIONIST PARTY MEMBERS. SDLP PERSONALITIES PUBLICLY REFLECTING INTERNAL PARTY DIVISIONS OVER IMPORTANCE AND IMMEDIACY OF "IRISH DIMENSION". IT APPEARS ALL PARTIES EXCEPT PERHAPS BRIAN FAULKNERS NEW UNIONISTS WILL CONTEST AT LEAST SOME CONSTITUENCIES.

2. SDLP HOPES FOR JOHN HUME VICTORY LONDONDERRY FROM SPLIT IN UUUC VOTE DIMMED BY ANNOUNCEMENT GLENN BARR ULSTER WORKERS COUNCIL (UWC) COORDINATOR SEPT. 17 THAT HE WOULD NOT RPT NOT BE CANDIDATE.

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3. BARRS ANNOUNCEMENT FOLLOWING EVENING MEETING UWC COORDINATING COMMITTEE AND WAS COUPLED WITH NEWS THAT THERE WOULD BE NO RPT NO UWC STRIKE UNLESS HMG ATTEMPTED IMPOSE POWER SHARING AND IRISH DIMENSION FORMULAE ON NORTHERN IRELAND CONSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK. BARR PREDICTED NO STRIKE BEFORE LOCAL ELECTIONS FOR CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION. DECISION RENOUNCE STRIKE FOR IMMEDIATE FUTURE FORECAST BY AUTHORITATIVE LOYALIST POLITICAL LEADER IN CONVERSATION WITH CONGEN SEPT. 17. FORMER ALSO PREDICTED CONVENTION ELECTIONS WOULD NOT RPT NOT BE HELD BEFORE MARCH 1975.
SPICER

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